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Abstract paper of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

The International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) is a non-governmental organization composed of 167 member societies and organizations representing 103 countries and areas. ISPRS is devoted to the development of international cooperation for the advancement of knowledge, research, development and education in photogrammetry, remote sensing and spatial information sciences, their integration and their applications, with a view to contributing to the well-being of humanity and the sustainability of the environment. ISPRS represents the international remote-sensing community as a non-governmental organization having observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and as a participant in joint activities with the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat. With regard to remote sensing from space, ISPRS places importance on the following four areas of priority to be considered by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: sustainable Earth observation; non-discriminatory access; support to developing countries; and international obligations. ISPRS recommends that the space community should: shift priorities in remote sensing towards information production; use non-governmental organizations such as ISPRS to facilitate cooperative dialogue between the public sector and the private sector; clarify portions of the Principles Relating to Remote Sensing of the Earth from Outer Space (General Assembly resolution 41/65, annex); enhance capacity-building initiatives; and improve international understanding of international treaties on the environment.

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